

*"Nurturing Excellence in Indigenous Early
Learning and Child Care since 1996"*



**BC ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE
SOCIETY (BCACC)
ANNUAL REPORT**

2017 - 2018



BC **Aboriginal**
ChildCare Society

Who We Are

BC Aboriginal Child Care Society (BCACCS) was established in 1996 to help BC First Nations establish Indigenous early learning and child care (IELCC) programs and services which meet the needs of First Nations children and families, on-reserve and off-reserve. We are committed to ensuring that communities are able to meet standards of care through the offering of high quality IELCC programs and services that are culturally and linguistically valid, as well as affordable, accessible and holistic. It is through this commitment that BCACCS has developed a variety of culturally-based resources and training workshops, as well as considerable policy expertise and research experience in the field of IELCC.

We are committed to nurturing excellence through community outreach, education, training, research and advocacy to ensure every Aboriginal child in BC has access to spiritually enriching, culturally relevant, high quality early childhood development and care services.

We believe in supporting communities, programs and services to ensure every Aboriginal child has a healthy, happy start in life so they thrive within their families, communities and nations.

Because we value children, we work with all our partners to ensure that Indigenous early learning and child care (IELCC) services across the province are delivered with the highest quality of current and promising practice.



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Sharing Our Stories

Over the last year there has been a decided shift in support for Indigenous early learning, child development and child care (IEL/CD/CC). There has been an acknowledgement of the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, in its relevance to cultural, social and political developments in the world and a movement toward reconciliation.

This has come after 20 long years of the BC Aboriginal Child Care Society (BCACCS) working continuously to identify strengths and barriers, create change, and support communities to create or maintain self-determined Indigenous early years programs.

For much of that time BCACCS has been concerned with capacity building for communities, in the sector, and for the organization. Capacity has always impacted our ability to create change and engage with critical audiences.

This year we were able to increase our capacity and address audiences such as First Nations leadership, policy developers and senior government officials, early childhood education professionals, advocacy organizations, and partners to grow the organization's impact and help create change in the IEL/CD/CC sector.

Through leadership and development partnerships and generative research we have been leading the creation of new policy regimes for IEL/CD/CC nationally, regionally and locally, supporting First Nations to lead in the sector, developing new approaches to reconciliation on the bases of early child and family policy for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants, and providing leadership to partner organizations toward systems change.

This year has been focused on leadership, capacity building, and a concerted First Nations effort to repatriate Indigenous social policy, after hundreds of years of its organized failure by the occupying authorities. It is time for a new chapter in the story of IEL/CD/CC in British Columbia and Canada. We look forward to leading and supporting this new outlook of possibility.



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on leadership, capacity
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social policy***

President, Mary
Teegee

Research

Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care Framework Progress.

In December 2017, the Assembly of First Nations Chiefs-in-Assembly passed a resolution endorsing a First Nations National Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) framework, as the First Nations component of the National Indigenous ELCC framework. Co-developed with the federal government but based in an Assembly of First Nations (AFN)-mandated regional First Nations engagement processes, the framework provides clear pathways to First Nations control, governance and future development of First Nations ELCC programs and services.

BCACCS is now working on the regional and national implementation of the National Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care (IELCC) framework by continuing to bring forward the “advice, guidance and direction” obtained in regional First Nations ELCC regional engagement.

As the framework moves through the federal cabinet approval process to become federal policy, the province of BC is already partnering with First Nations leadership (the organizations of the First Nations Leadership Council) to support the regional implementation of the framework. A regionally-based National IELCC framework will transform systems and structures to better work for the distinct cultures, aspirations and needs of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis children, families, communities and Nations in self-determination.

BCACCS is honoured to be moving forward the co-development and Indigenous-led implementation of the framework as mandated by regional First Nations leadership, and with regional partners and the government of Canada. Most important however, BCACCS is honoured to bring its longstanding commitments to Indigenous ELCC into new possibilities like the IELCC framework.



Research



Transitions.

BCACCS is committed to research that supports, celebrates, promotes and advocates for Indigenous early learning and child care, and the children, families, communities and cultures that it responds to and supports.

This pilot project, developed with the support of the City of Vancouver Social Innovation Program and the Vancouver Foundation, documents, shares and develops Indigenous capacities and partnerships on the basis of the experiences and voices of urban Indigenous children and families as they undergo the challenges of transitions into formal schooling. The project forefronts Indigenous leadership through partnership development within view of Indigenous rights to autonomy, cultural development and self-determination in matters relating to internal or local affairs. In addition to BCACCS, current partners include Singing Frog and Eagle's Nest Aboriginal Head Start Preschools, the Vancouver Aboriginal Early Years Network, the Metro Vancouver Aboriginal Executive Council, Vancouver Island University, and the Vancouver School Board.

There is presently insufficient attention given to the support of Indigenous children in their transition to kindergarten. This is most clearly seen in transitions from Indigenous-led pre-school and daycare (e.g. Aboriginal Head Start) to public school, and it leads to some very specific impacts and persistent challenges for Indigenous children and their families as they attempt to navigate powerful social and educational systems. These impacts, challenges and lack of support are insufficiently documented with respect specifically to Indigenous children and their families' experiences (which tend instead to be measured in the predominantly institutional terms of school boards' Aboriginal enhancement agreements, government surveys, test scores, completion rates, and enumeration of programs and services). We anticipate the findings will contribute to the health and wellness of Indigenous children and their families, as well as their empowerment through engagement in this specifically Indigenous-led and developed partnership, inquiry and advocacy pilot project.

Resource Centre



BCACCS Resource Centre.

Staff, with the support of the advisors (Maureen Black, Rachel Marchand, and Kirsten Bevelander) have been creating new curriculum kits. Our salmon, bear, owl and drum kits are currently available for loan from the lending libraries at several BC Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR) sites until early September as part of our rotating collection pilot project. Our coyote, raven, eagle, canoe and cedar kits will be completed by the end of this summer and available through the BCACCS Resource Centre and other CCRR sites across the province. This project was funded by the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD). We also acknowledge the Loyal Protestant Association for making the shipping of our resources throughout the province possible. Additionally, the lending library will be poised to share the Traditional Foods kit in August of 2018.

Our hard working library staff and consultants (Rowena Koh, Kate Longley, and Bahar Sadeghieh) continue to update the collection with new Indigenous children's books, teaching resources and academic works. Access to journal articles, policy papers, and other academic literature is easier than ever. The catalogue provides access to 1,379 physical and online resources.

The IELCC Knowledge Portal currently consists of nine subject guides with over 822 links to practical online tools and resources on topics such as Parent & Childrearing and Leadership & Management. Plans are being made to integrate this with the BCACCS website in the future.



Services

Connecting the Dots.

In response to dialogue with local Indigenous leaders involved with early childhood education, and their formal commitments to reconciliation, the City of Vancouver worked with BCACCS to design and implement a focused consultation process to discuss the potential for developing a collaborative model to support the sector's capacity to continue to provide high quality, culturally appropriate services to Aboriginal children and their caregivers. The result was the Vancouver Aboriginal Early Years Network (VAEYN). This working group addresses the broader strategic planning needs and opportunities of the Aboriginal Early Years sector in Vancouver.

Part of Community.

This year BCACCS staff shared information about BCACCS at several tables, presented at various meetings, and took part in some community events. Maybe you saw us at the Walk for Reconciliation, Fair in the Square, and the March for Missing Indigenous Women, or participated in one of our training workshops. We visited with people in the community and supported national, provincial, and local Indigenous early learning, child development and child care efforts by providing resources, information, and sharing our research.

Building Relationships.

BCACCS staff and board actively build relationships, share knowledge, and engage with partners.

Staff supported the learning community by partnering or providing information for the University of Victoria, Camosun College, Capilano University, Langara College, and Vancouver Island University.

Collaborations occurred with: First Nations Health Authority (FNHA), Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD), National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health (NCCAH), Metro Vancouver Aboriginal Executive Council (MVAEC), Strong Start, Early Childhood Educators of BC (ECEBC), Many Voices One Mind (q̓x̓el̓əc, n̓áćəmat̓ θəł̓ kʷθə ʃxʷqʷeləwən), United Way of Vancouver Lower Mainland, The City of Vancouver, First Call Coalition, Canadian Child Care Federation, Vancouver School Board, and the Musqueam First Nation in order to provide training opportunities and share and develop resources.

Recognition of Early Childhood Champions.

Each year BCACCS expresses our appreciation for the special individuals and groups that are making positive and lasting contributions to the field of Indigenous early learning and child care and helping the youngest generation thrive.

The Perry Shawana award is presented annually to an individual who has contributed to and advanced the notion of the need for safe, nurturing and high quality child care and early learning services for BC's Aboriginal children. The 2017 winner was Rosalind Williams, Splats'In Childcare Program

To honour exceptional role models working in Indigenous early learning and child care we present the Child Care Recognition Awards at our annual conference. The 2017 recipients were Connie Deane and Laranna Androsoff.



Education & Training



Supporting Cultural Competency.

The ECE Cultural competency project was co-developed by the Musqueam Nation, BC Aboriginal Child Care Society, City of Vancouver, Collingwood Neighbourhood House, and other community partners. The end result was a series of five cultural competency video modules for early childhood educators and a supporting booklet, *This Land: A Companion Resource for Early Childhood Educators to accompany Five Short Films*.

Becoming a Village.

In partnership with the First Nations Health Authority; 309 delegates from more than 200 programs throughout the province participated in the 20th BCACCS annual provincial training conference in October 2017. The theme “It Takes a Village: Coming together for children and families” recognized that community involvement, leadership, and support are central to the healthy, holistic development of Indigenous children.

Shane Point, from the Musqueam First Nation, welcomed delegates. Our opening keynote speaker, Margo Greenwood reminded us about how much strength we have and the importance of Indigenous early childhood education. Highlights included a witnessing ceremony and reflection provided by Cheryl Gabriel, Ada Mawson, Mary Williams, Barb Niemi and Pam Guno as well as the closing led by cultural advisor Eugene Harry (XiQuelem).

The three day conference was comprised of 45 workshops, four of which were full day workshops on topics like: Parental Involvement, Additional Needs, Caring for the Caregiver, Funding, Learning Stories, and Building Relationships

Making Connections Online.

Canadian mainstream screening and assessment tools are used to identify and demonstrate the need for early intervention services for children. However, current tools and approaches do not take into account the cultural perspectives of Canadian Indigenous populations or the on-going impact of colonization. This has resulted in a cautious approach to screening and assessment by Indigenous families and Indigenous children going without appropriate, supportive intervention.

The Connections Project was developed to address these concerns. It grew out of advocacy and needs identified by Aboriginal Head Start educators as a response to their experiences of utilizing a variety of traditional screening and assessment tools.

The revised Connections Courses have been developed in partnership with Vancouver Island University and Capilano University and will go online May 2018. A Summer Intensive will be offered as the second course in the series in August 2018. The main objectives of these courses are to increase educators’ understanding and knowledge, discuss the poor fit of mainstream models for Indigenous communities, as well as learn and practice models of assessment that have been identified globally as holistic, culturally safe and supportive of Indigenous children and families.



Our People

Staff

Karen Isaac, *Executive Director*

Kirsten Bevelander, *ACCRR Program Manager / Child Care Advisor*

Graham Giles, *Research and Policy Analyst*

Rachel Marchand, *Aboriginal Child Care Advisor (Interior)*

Maureen Black, *Aboriginal Child Care Advisor*

Fionn Yaxley, *Communications Officer*

Scott (lax-lya7) Nahanee, *Accounts Payable / Administration*

Eugene Harry, (XiQulem), *Cultural Advisor*

Bahar Sadeghieh, *Library Assistant*

Leona Antoine, *Program Coordinator, Singing Frog Preschool*

Dawn Westland, *Program Coordinator, Eagle's Nest Preschool*

Mary Teegee, *President*
Executive Director of Child & Family Services, Carrier Sekani Family Services

Maurice Squires, *Vice-President*
Director of Aboriginal Policy and Practice, Aboriginal Services Branch, MCFD

Al Lawrence, *Treasurer / Secretary*
Owner/Operator Kidz Co

Sue Sterling, *Director*
Consultant & Instructor

Robert Lagassé (Xeylsqoyeplexw), *Director*
Chief Executive Officer, Sts'ailes Development Corporation

Warner Adam, *Director*
Chief Executive Officer, Carrier Sekani Family Services

Debra Foxcroft, *Director*
Independent Consultant

Board

Vital Signs

Statistical Summary of Program Activities 2017-2018

23,408

Website hits

27

Communities visited by Advisors

1,586

Facebook likes

3,532

Consults

309

Conference attendees

28

E-bulletins sent

1,203

Resources in the library

277

Moe the Mouse® Participants

5,616

Users access the library

4

Newsletters distributed

53

E-news shared



Representation of our Stakeholders across BC from 2017 conference training

22.30% COASTAL 20.86% ISLAND 19.42% NORTHERN 25.18% INTERIOR 12.23% FRASER

Our Funders / Giving Thanks

Many thanks to our funders.

First Nations Health Authority for their financial support of our 20th annual provincial training conference, October 2017

Ministry of Children and Family Development, Child Care Branch, for funding the BC Aboriginal Child Care Resource and Referral and providing a one-time grant to build our Resource Centre and support our website redesign.

Bank of Montreal, Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA), HummingBird Productions, and Vancouver Airport Sheraton Hotel, for support of our 20th conference cultural activities, October 2017

Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), for funding the operations of Eagle's Nest and Singing Frog Aboriginal Head Start Preschools in East Vancouver and for continuing to support our Connections Project.

City of Vancouver and The Vancouver Foundation for funding the Transitions Project

City of Vancouver for supporting us to establish the Vancouver Aboriginal Early Years Network

Musqueam Nation, City of Vancouver, and Early Childhood Educators of BC for supporting the ECE Cultural competency project

Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and Employment and Social Development Canada (ESCD) for their support of the Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care regional engagement.

Loyal Protestant Association for transportation and circulation of piloted curriculum kits

Without donations we could not do the work we do. We thank the funders, private donors, and volunteers that support BCACCS to ensure that Indigenous focused scholarships, training, and resources are available for to ECEs in the Indigenous early learning field.



Financials

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES For the year ended March 31, 2018

	Operations B u d g e t 2 0 1 8 (Unaudited)	Operations Actual 2018	Capital Actual 2018	Total 2018	Total 2017
REVENUES					
Registration	50,000	78,115	-	78,115	74,034
Workshop	11,000	51,779	-	51,779	23,749
Membership	2,500	1,236	-	1,236	3,725
Rental	17,000	11,950	-	11,950	15,753
National Indian Brotherhood	-	20,680	-	20,680	2,477
Moe the Mouse	18,000	20,039	-	20,039	22,715
Public Health Agency of Canada	664,400	855,507	-	855,507	660,746
First Nations Health Authority	200,000	200,000	-	200,000	200,000
City of Vancouver	46,173	25,000	-	25,000	40,000
National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health	1,000	1,000	-	1,000	-
Province of BC (MCFD)	352,678	626,363	-	626,363	340,907
Province of BC (CCOF)	4,000	10,401	-	10,401	10,488
Provincial Health Services Authority	3,500	-	-	-	5,500
United Way of Vancouver Lower Mainland	50,000	30,000	-	30,000	12,500
Vancouver Native Health Society (VNHS)	4,000	23,227	-	23,227	3,991
Donations	40,235	14,155	-	14,155	7,495
Fundraising	7,000	1,001	-	1,001	826
Anonymous donor	-	-	-	-	51,900
Aboriginal Head Start Association of BC	-	2,150	-	2,150	27,600
Handling Fees	78,000	73,258	-	73,258	85,953
Employment and social development	-	32,833	-	32,833	29,284
Miscellaneous	57,315	56,952	-	56,952	61,650
Indigenous Service Canada	-	80,002	-	80,002	-
Vancouver Foundation	7,583	31,250	-	31,250	-
	1,614,384	2,246,898	-	2,246,898	1,681,023

Financials

cont'd STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
For the year ended March 31, 2018

	Operations Budget 2018 (Unaudited)	Operations Actual 2018	Capital Actual 2018	Total 2018	Total 2017
EXPENDITURES					
Wages ⁹	927,667	892,746	-	892,746	829,652
Depreciation	-	-	17,993	17,993	13,742
Rent	95,163	101,521	-	101,521	98,759
Utilities	15,650	7,788	-	7,788	6,975
Renovations	-	1,339	-	1,339	2,296
Alarm	300	1,097	-	1,097	1,476
Insurance	7,206	7,515	-	7,515	9,279
Insurance - vehicle	-	5,403	-	5,403	5,142
Property taxes	-	1,321	-	1,321	2,668
Office supplies	16,053	6,277	-	6,277	4,636
Photocopying and printing	8,327	21,092	-	21,092	20,047
Postage and courier	5,900	2,149	-	2,149	2,634
Telephone	1,200	11,235	-	11,235	9,870
Internet and website	11,350	23,838	-	23,838	21,002
Office equipment and upgrades	-	1,400	-	1,400	-
Meeting food	-	3,644	-	3,644	6,931
Staff recruitment and criminal checks	-	561	-	561	1,228
Staff training	8,900	7,758	-	7,758	6,533
Staff appreciation	1,000	570	-	570	2,338
Promotion	-	100	-	100	83
Legal	-	656	-	656	1,627
Audit	4,500	11,657	-	11,657	10,805
Accounting	9,900	27,199	-	27,199	22,000
Payroll process	900	1,298	-	1,298	1,185
Publications	2,500	-	-	-	2,721
Consultant	50,495	107,095	-	107,095	103,204
Board travel and meetings	12,000	11,564	-	11,564	7,411
Elders honoraria	6,600	10,493	-	10,493	18,343
Fuel and mileage	3,500	7,090	-	7,090	3,546
Food and nutrition	-	13,271	-	13,271	14,527
Meals and Misc. (FNHA delegate)	30,000	15,890	-	15,890	12,710
Program material and trip tickets	35,600	66,005	-	66,005	44,136
Registration fees	1,000	55,000	-	55,000	50,500
Training	27,000	3,165	-	3,165	860
Education allowance	1,900	793	-	793	2,077
Other program expenses	5,700	4,000	-	4,000	10,746
Meeting rooms and catering	51,000	53,545	-	53,545	53,988
Travel and trip fees	65,685	68,917	-	68,917	50,322
Travel-FNHA delegates	85,000	85,322	-	85,322	85,500
Evaluation	4,333	3,750	-	3,750	-
Janitorial Supplies	-	278	-	278	511
Equipment	23,139	52,547	-	52,547	25,710
Handling fees	86,784	73,258	-	73,258	85,953
Dues and fees	500	1,731	-	1,731	1,906
Bank charges	900	1,597	-	1,597	1,230
Miscellaneous	5,950	7,050	-	7,050	621
	1,613,602	1,780,525	17,993	1,798,518	1,657,430
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	782	466,373	(17,993)	448,380	23,593
Fund balance, beginning of the year		249,992	77,948	327,940	304,347
Capital additions paid from Operations Funds		(115,586)	115,586	-	-
Fnd balance, end of year		600,779	175,541	776,320	327,940

Financials

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
March 31, 2018

	Operations 2018	Capital 2018	Total 2018	Total 2017
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash	682,667	-	682,667	53,815
Investment ⁴	5,772	-	5,772	5,772
Accounts receivable	51,113	-	51,113	231,407
Due from employees	-	-	-	4,485
GST Receivable	9,975	-	9,975	15,454
Prepaid expenses	22,308	-	22,308	14,405
	771,835	-	771,835	325,338
TANGIBLE CAPITAL ⁵	-	131,820	131,820	77,948
INTANGIBLE CAPITAL ⁶	-	43,721	43,721	-
	771,835	175,541	947,376	403,286
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	43,581	-	43,581	37,275
Vacation payable	46,475	-	46,475	31,071
Unearned revenue	80,000	-	80,000	6,000
Refundable deposit	1,000	-	1,000	1,000
	171,056	-	171,056	75,346
FUND BALANCES				
UNRESTRICTED	600,779	-	600,779	249,992
INVESTED IN TANGIBLE CAPITAL	-	175,541	175,541	77,948
	600,779	175,541	776,320	327,940
	771,835	175,541	947,376	403,286

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT - TO THE MEMBERS, B.C. ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE SOCIETY

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of B.C. Aboriginal Child Care Society, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2018, and the statement of operations and changes in fund balances and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as Management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures

in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditors consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained in our audit is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of B.C. Aboriginal Child Care Society as at March 31, 2018, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

REID HURST NAGY INC. - CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

RICHMOND, B.C. JULY 22, 2018



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